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**PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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P. 10/20/01  
10/20/01

Applicant: **Shuo-Yen Robert Li**

Case: 16

Serial No. **09/882,423**

Filed: **June 15, 2001**

Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

Title of Invention: **GENERALIZED DIVIDE-AND-CONQUER NETWORKS**

**THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231**

**SIR:**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Enclosed is a Preliminary Amendment in the above-identified application.  
Please amend the application as follows.

In the Specification:

Replace pages 8 and 9 with the following:

-- SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The shortcomings of the prior art, as well as other limitations and deficiencies, are obviated in accordance with the present invention by applying algebraic principles to the physical realization of a large switching fabric based upon contemporary technologies.

Broadly, in accordance with a method aspect of the present invention, a method for constructing a  $2^n \times 2^n$  generalized divide-and-conquer network,  $n > 3$ , includes:

(a) determining an n-leaf balanced binary tree indicative of the generalized divide-and-



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Enclosed is a Preliminary Amendment in the above-identified application.

No additional fee is required based on the calculation below for a **small entity**:

**CLAIMS AS AMENDED**

	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	CLAIMS PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
Total Claims	14	20	0	\$9.00	\$ 0.00
Indep. Claims	5	5	0	\$40.00	\$ 0.00

Multiple Claims First Presented with this Amendment = 0	\$0
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**Total: \$0.00**

Also enclosed herewith for filing in connection with the enclosed application are:

**XX** Return Postcard

Respectfully submitted,

*John T. Peoples*

Date: 9-8-01

John T. Peoples (Reg. No. 28,250)  
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(908) 580-9816



Certificate of Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited by me on  
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John T. Peoples  
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